

CLAIMS

We claim:

1. A method comprising:
 - a) unlocking a first lock of a housing of an automated banking machine including a chest portion and a top portion outside and extending above the chest portion, wherein the chest portion houses a cash dispenser adapted to dispense cash from the machine, and wherein the top housing portion includes a cash acceptor mechanism adapted to segregate valid notes from suspect invalid notes input to the machine by users, and wherein the cash acceptor mechanism is operative to cause valid notes to pass to within the chest portion, and suspect invalid notes to pass to a suspect note area in the top housing portion, wherein unlocking the first lock enables access to the top housing portion;
 - b) unlocking a second lock accessible within the top housing portion, wherein unlocking a second lock enables accessing the suspect note storage area.
2. The method according to claim 1 and further comprising:

- c) subsequent to (b) removing notes from the suspect note storage area.

3. The method according to claim 1 wherein the chest portion includes a generally horizontally extending wall including a cash accepting opening, wherein notes determined to be valid notes by the cash acceptor mechanism pass through the cash accepting opening, and further comprising:

- c) subsequent to (a) moving the cash acceptor mechanism horizontally in supporting connection with the horizontally extending wall such that a cash accepting mechanism extends out of the housing from the top portion.

4. The method according to claim 3 wherein the chest portion is bounded within the housing by a vertically extending wall and wherein (c) comprises moving the cash accepting mechanism generally parallel to the vertically extending wall.

5. The method according to claim 3 wherein the cash acceptor mechanism includes a driving member, and wherein the machine further includes a driven member adapted responsive to movement thereof to cause notes to move in a transport extending in the chest portion, and wherein (c) includes disengaging the driving member and the driven member.

6. The method according to claim 4 and subsequent to (c):

- d) moving a service panel in supporting connection with the cash acceptor mechanism to enable access to an internal device of the cash acceptor mechanism.

7. The method according to claim 6 wherein prior to being moved in (d) the service panel extends generally parallel to the vertically extending wall.

8. The method according to claim 7 wherein (d) comprises rotatably moving the service panel in supporting connection with the cash acceptor mechanism.

9. The method according to claim 7 wherein (d) comprises moving the service panel relative to the cash acceptor mechanism and generally parallel to the vertically extending wall.

10. The method according to claim 6 and further comprising:

- e) accessing the internal device of the cash acceptor mechanism.

11. The method according to claim 10 and further comprising:

- f) moving the service panel in supporting connection with the cash acceptor mechanism to prevent access to the internal device, wherein the service panel extends generally parallel to the vertically extending wall.

12. The method according to claim 11 and further comprising:

- g) moving the cash acceptor mechanism in supporting connection with the horizontally extending wall into the housing.

13. The method according to claim 12 and subsequent to (g) further comprising:

- h) locking the first lock to prevent access to the top housing area.

14. The method according to claim 1 wherein the cash dispenser within the chest portion and the cash acceptor mechanism outside the chest portion extend in side-by-side relation, and further comprising:

- c) opening a lock enabling access to an interior area of the chest portion;
- d) accessing the cash dispenser in the interior area of the chest portion.

15. The method according to claim 13 and further comprising:

receiving at least one identifying input through at least one input device on a user interface of the automated banking machine;

dispensing cash to the user from the machine through operation of the cash dispenser.

16. A method comprising:

- a) unlocking a first lock of a housing of an automated banking machine including a chest portion and a top housing portion outside the chest portion, wherein the chest portion houses a cash dispenser adapted to dispense cash from the machine, and wherein the top housing portion includes a cash acceptor mechanism adapted to segregate valid notes from suspect invalid notes input to the machine by users, and wherein the cash acceptor mechanism is operative to cause valid notes to pass to within the chest portion through a cash accepting opening in a horizontally extending wall of the chest portion, and suspect invalid notes to pass through a suspect note storage area in the top housing portion, wherein unlocking the first lock enables access to the top housing portion;

- b) subsequent to (a) moving the cash acceptor mechanism horizontally in supporting connection with the horizontally extending wall such the cash accepting mechanism extends out of the housing from the top portion.

17. The method according to claim 16 wherein the chest portion is bounded within the housing by a generally vertically extended wall, and wherein (b) comprises moving the cash acceptor mechanism generally parallel to the vertically extending wall.

18. The method according to claim 16 wherein the cash acceptor mechanism includes a driving member, and wherein the machine further includes a driven member adapted responsive to movement thereof to cause notes to move in a transport extending in the chest portion, and wherein (b) further includes disengaging the driving member and the driven member.

19. The method according to claim 16 and subsequent to (b):

- c) moving a service panel in supporting connection with the cash acceptor mechanism to enable access to an internal device of the cash acceptor mechanism.

20. The method according to claim 19 wherein (c) comprises rotatably moving the service panel in supporting connection with the cash acceptor mechanism.

21. The method according to claim 19 wherein (c) comprises moving the service panel relative to the cash acceptor mechanism and generally parallel to the vertically extending wall.

22. The method according to claim 18 and further comprising:

d) accessing an internal device of the cash acceptor mechanism.

23. The method according to claim 22 and further comprising:

e) moving the service panel in supporting connection with the cash acceptor mechanism to prevent access to the internal device, wherein the service panel extends generally parallel to the vertically extending wall.

24. The method according to claim 23 and further comprising:

f) moving the cash acceptor mechanism in supporting connection with the horizontally extending wall into the housing.

25. The method according to claim 24 and subsequent to (f) further comprising:
- g) locking the first lock to prevent access to the top housing area.
26. The method according to claim 16 and further comprising:
- c) subsequent to (a) unlocking a second lock accessible within the top housing portion, wherein unlocking the second lock enables accessing the suspect note storage area.
27. The method according to claim 26 and further comprising:
- d) subsequent to (c) removing suspect notes from the suspect note storage area.